GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3016
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Reclaiming of Kohinoor
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA)

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of petitions pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court that Government of India should demand the return of the "Kohinoor";

(b) the stand of British Government on the same in response to the request of Government of India thereof;

(c) whether the Government is in touch with the Government of United Kingdom and if so, the details of the last position/stand of that Government communicated in this regard;

(d) whether the issue has ever figured in bilateral talks between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) There is only one petition i.e. W.P. No. 185/2016 pending in Supreme Court of India--All Human Rights and Social Justice Front Vs. High Commissioner of U K & Ors regarding return of Kohinoor diamond and other artefacts from London, United Kingdom.

(b) to (e) Government of India has been mindful of the sentiments that have been expressed by the Indian public and the Parliament from time to time, about the return of the Kohinoor and other items to India. Consequently, the Ministry of External Affairs continues to explore ways and means for obtaining a satisfactory resolution to this issue with the United Kingdom Government.